

Population and Demographics



The current population of the Mildura region is 60,281 and has seen consistent growth over past decades. This population increase has generated demand for a variety of products and services, including housing, which has aided in driving a strong economy. Unless otherwise indicated, "Place of usual residence" data from the ABS has been used in this analysis and best reflects the actual population characteristics of the region.

General Population

Historic Population

Population Changes - Mildura Rural City Council, 1981-2008

Region	Year	Population	Period	% Change	Annual %Change
Mildura City & Shire, Walpeup	1981	38,344			
Mildura City & Shire, Walpeup	1986	41,506	1981-1986	8.3%	1.6%
Mildura Rural City Council , Pt A & Pt B	1991	44,537	1986-1991	7.3%	1.4%
Mildura Rural City Council , Pt A & Pt B	1996	45,811	1991-1996	2.9%	0.6%
Mildura Rural City Council , Pt A & Pt B	2001	49,616	1996-2001	8.3%	1.6%
Mildura Rural City Council , Pt A & Pt B	2006	51,590	2001-2006	4.0%	0.8%
Mildura Rural City Council , Pt A & Pt B	2008	53,122	2006-2008	3.0%	1.5%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006); ABS 3218.0 (2009)

Population Changes - Wentworth Shire Council, 1981-2008

Region	Year	Population	Period	% Change	Annual %Change
Wentworth Shire Council	1981	7,100			
Wentworth Shire Council	1986	7,374	1981-1986	3.9%	0.8%
Wentworth Shire Council	1991	7,270	1986-1991	-1.4%	-0.3%
Wentworth Shire Council	1996	7,197	1991-1996	-1.0%	-0.2%
Wentworth Shire Council	2001	7,214	1996-2001	0.2%	0.1%
Wentworth Shire Council	2006	7,058	2001-2006	-2.2%	-0.4%
Wentworth Shire Council	2008	7,159	2006-2008	1.4%	0.7%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006); ABS 3218.0 (2009)

Population Changes - Total Mildura Region, 1981-2008

Region	Year	Population	Period	% Change	Annual % Change
Mildura City & Shire, Walpeup, Wentworth	1981	45,444			
Mildura City & Shire, Walpeup, Wentworth	1986	48,880	1981-1986	7.6%	1.5%
Mildura Rural City Council , Pt A & Pt B, Wentworth	1991	51,807	1986-1991	6.0%	1.2%
Mildura Rural City Council , Pt A & Pt B, Wentworth	1996	53,008	1991-1996	2.3%	0.5%
Mildura Rural City Council , Pt A & Pt B, Wentworth	2001	56,830	1996-2001	7.2%	1.4%
Mildura Rural City Council , Pt A & Pt B, Wentworth	2006	58,648	2001-2006	3.2%	0.6%
Mildura Rural City Council , Pt A & Pt B, Wentworth	2008	60,281	2006-2008	2.8%	1.4%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006); ABS 3218.0 (2009)

Population Changes - Mildura Region, 1996-2008

Region	Population 1996	Population 2008	Ave Annual % Change 1996-2008	Area km ²	Population density 2008 persons/km ²
Mildura Rural City Council Part A	41,130	49,280	1.5%	483.3	102.0
Mildura Rural City Council Part B	4,681	3,842	-1.6%	21,603.3	0.2
Mildura Rural City Council Total	45,811	53,122	1.2%	22,086.6	2.4
Wentworth Shire Council	7,197	7,159	0.0%	26,268.7	0.3
Mildura Region	53,008	60,281	1.1%	48,355.0	1.2

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006); ABS 3218.0 (2009)

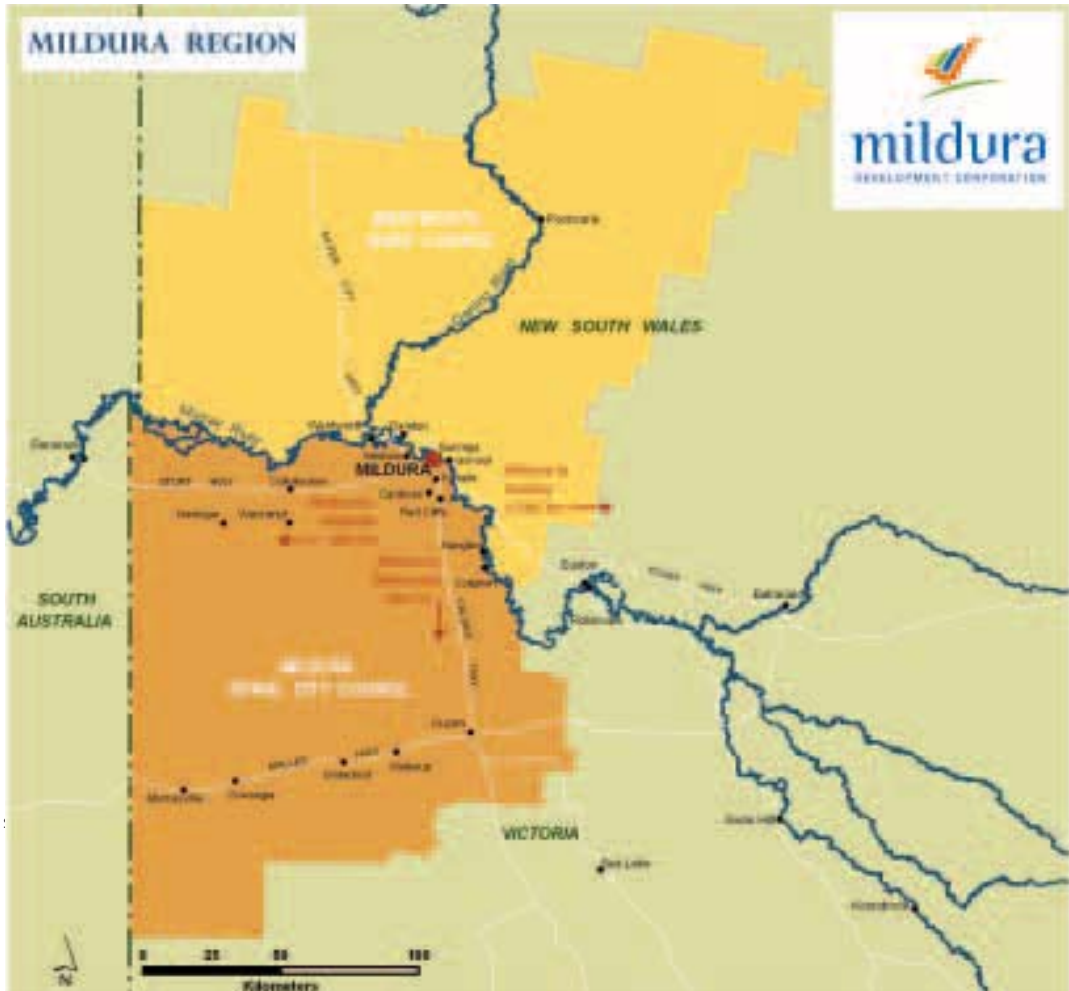
The Mildura region has seen an increase in population over the last decade of 1.1% per year on average.

The population of Mildura Rural City Council has grown significantly from previous census periods dating back to the 1980s, from 38,344 in 1981 to 53,122 in 2008. At the same time, the population of Wentworth Shire Council has remained relatively constant and in 2008 totalled 7,159.

The Mildura region has seen an increase in population over the last decade of 1.1% per year on average. At the same time, the population density clearly shows that Mildura city is a population hub compared to the surrounding region, which contains much of the agricultural activity.

Steady population growth offers increased demand for products and services and helps maintain a growing economy.

Mildura Region Overview



Mildura Regional Population Change, 2001-2006

The city of Mildura has grown by 8.2% between 2001 and 2006.

Town ^(a)	2001	2006	Change	% Change
Mildura	26,555	28,743	2,188	8.2%
Wentworth	1,430	1,303	-127	-8.9%
Red Cliffs	2,629	2,736	107	4.1%
Ouyen	1,155	1,061	-94	-8.1%
Underbool	223	217	-6	-2.7%
Murrayville	231	212	-19	-8.2%
Cabarita	271	280	9	3.3%
Merbein	1,820	1,974	154	8.5%
Gol Gol	569	663	94	16.5%
Buronga	923	807	-116	-12.6%
Dareton	620	567	-53	-8.5%

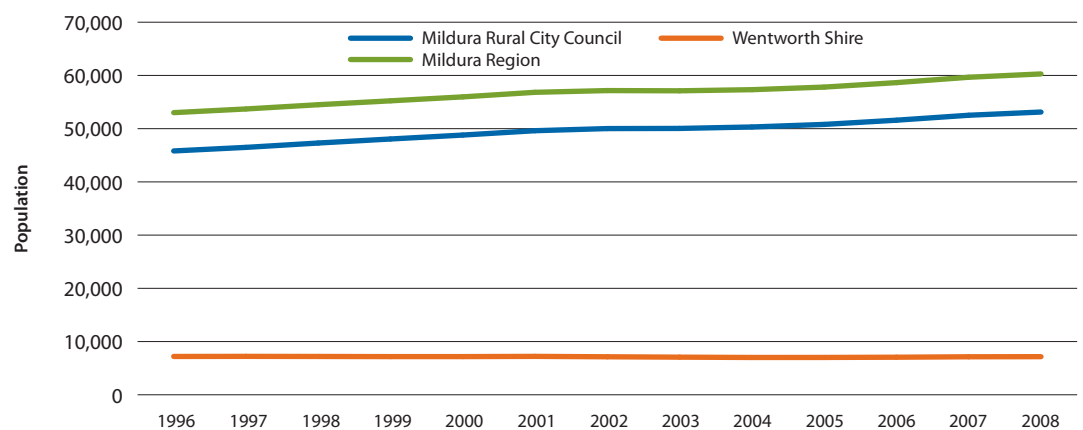
Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006), VIC Dept. of Sustainability and Environment's Towns in Time 2001 report
 Note: (a) Towns refer to 'urban centres' as defined by the ABS, except Mildura. Mildura 2001 population figure taken from the DSE Towns in Time Report 2001 (due to changes in boundaries) and Mildura 2006 population based on Mildura as a 'state suburb', as defined by the ABS.

Towns of the Mildura Region, 2006

Town ^(a)	2006 Population	Proportion of Population
Buronga	807	1.4%
Cabarita	280	0.5%
Cardross	739	1.3%
Colignan	204	0.4%
Dareton	567	1.0%
Gol Gol	663	1.2%
Irymple	5,704	10.1%
Merbein	1,974	3.5%
Meringur	147	0.3%
Mildura	28,743	50.8%
Murrayville	212	0.4%
Nangiloc	400	0.7%
Ouyen	1,061	1.9%
Pooncarie	155	0.3%
Red Cliffs	2,736	4.8%
Underbool	217	0.4%
Walpeup	108	0.2%
Wentworth	1,303	2.3%
Rural Balance ^(b)	10,576	18.7%
Total	56,596	100.0%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2006)
 Note: (a) Towns refer to 'state suburbs' as defined by the ABS. (b) Rural balance comprises area located outside 'state suburb' boundaries.

Historic Population, Mildura Region, 1996-2008



Source: AECgroup; ABS 3218.0 (2009)

Population Projections

The population of the Mildura region is expected to continue growing into the future, reaching almost 63,000 by 2026.

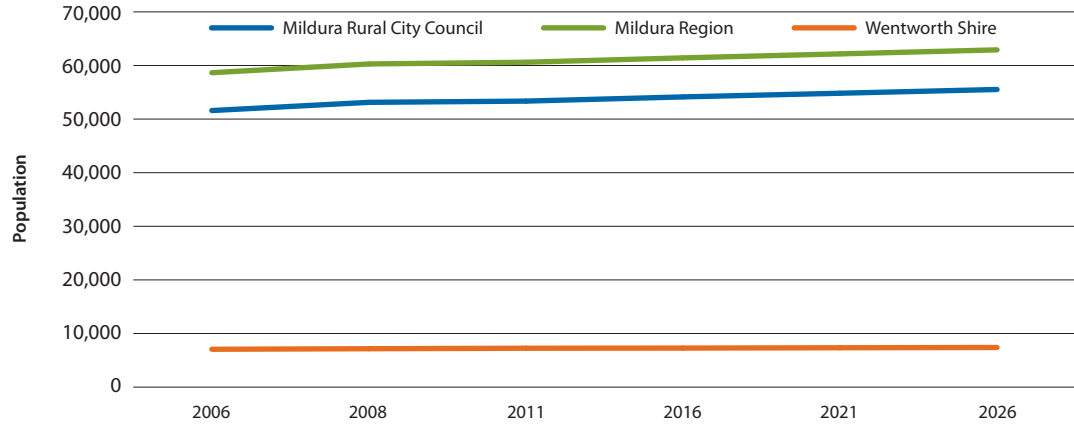
A strong future population helps to ensure a growing labour pool, which in turn helps businesses find the necessary skills to grow. As businesses continue to expand in the Mildura region, they will also offer a greater number of employment opportunities, which combined with the quality of life of the region can also contribute to the growing population. This interaction between population and job growth has contributed to the recent growth in Mildura and will continue to assist the region to grow into the future.

Population Projections - Mildura Region, 2006-2026

LGA	2006	2008	2011	2016	2021	2026
Mildura Rural City Council	51,590	53,122	53,351	54,135	54,820	55,523
Wentworth Shire Council	7,058	7,159	7,250	7,280	7,340	7,390
Mildura Region	58,648	60,281	60,601	61,415	62,160	62,913
% Change	-	2.8%	0.5%	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%

Source: AECgroup; ABS 3218.0 (2009); NSW Dept. of Planning (2007); VIC Dept. of Sustainability and Environment, Victoria in Future (2008)

Population Projections - Mildura Region, 2006-2026



Source: AECgroup; ABS 3218.0 (2006); NSW Dept. of Planning (2007); VIC Dept. Sustainability and Environment, Victoria in Future (2008)

The Mildura region population is expected to reach almost 63,000 by 2026.



Population Profile

Age Profile

Like many communities in Australia, the population of the Mildura region is aging. A comparison of the past two census periods shows that the age groups from 80-84 years, 45-49 years and 55-59 years were the fastest growing age segments. This continuing increase in an older population will require additional medical services as well as generate pressure on the younger population to provide services and generate economic value for the community.

The table and charts below also show that persons between the age groups of 20-29 are much smaller than the surrounding age groups. This would indicate a large number of residents of this age are leaving the Mildura region. This phenomenon could be easily explained by young adults leaving for university or jobs outside the Mildura region.

Population Age Structure, Mildura Region, 2001-2006

8.1% of Mildura's population are aged 10-14, followed by 7.6% aged 5-9 years and 7.5% aged 45-49 years.

	2001		2006		Change 2001-2006	
	No.	% Total	No.	% Total	No.	% Total
0-4 years	4,274	7.5%	3,812	6.5%	-462	-10.8%
5-9 years	4,621	8.1%	4,483	7.6%	-138	-3.0%
10-14 years	4,557	8.0%	4,748	8.1%	191	4.2%
15-19 years	3,868	6.8%	4,224	7.2%	356	9.2%
20-24 years	2,954	5.2%	3,065	5.2%	111	3.8%
25-29 years	3,468	6.1%	3,094	5.3%	-374	-10.8%
30-34 years	3,918	6.9%	3,662	6.2%	-256	-6.5%
35-39 years	4,180	7.4%	4,068	6.9%	-112	-2.7%
40-44 years	4,375	7.7%	4,201	7.2%	-174	-4.0%
45-49 years	3,819	6.7%	4,371	7.5%	551	14.4%
50-54 years	3,703	6.5%	3,793	6.5%	89	2.4%
55-59 years	2,863	5.0%	3,657	6.2%	794	27.7%
60-64 years	2,560	4.5%	2,840	4.8%	280	10.9%
65-69 years	2,194	3.9%	2,409	4.1%	215	9.8%
70-74 years	2,090	3.7%	2,054	3.5%	-36	-1.7%
75-79 years	1,603	2.8%	1,888	3.2%	285	17.8%
80-84 years	989	1.7%	1,285	2.2%	296	30.0%
85 years and over	792	1.4%	993	1.7%	201	25.3%
Total	56,830	100.0%	58,648	100.0%	1,818	3.2%

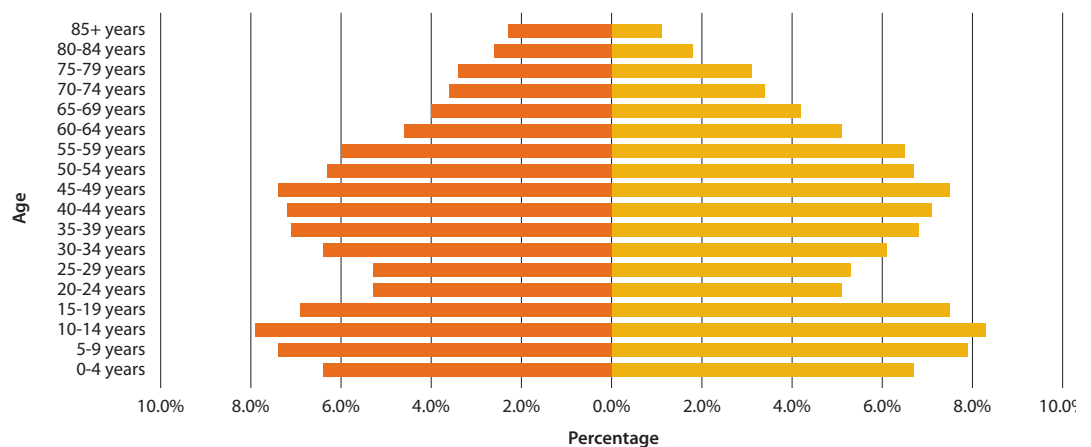
Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006)

Population Age by Gender, Mildura Region, 2001-2006

	Males		Females		Total Persons		Change 2001-2006	
	No.	% Total	No.	% Total	No.	% Total	No.	% Total
0-4 years	1,924	6.7%	1,888	6.4%	3,812	6.5%	-462	-10.8%
5-9 years	2,287	7.9%	2,196	7.4%	4,483	7.6%	-138	-3.0%
10-14 years	2,405	8.3%	2,343	7.9%	4,748	8.1%	191	4.2%
15-19 years	2,161	7.5%	2,063	6.9%	4,224	7.2%	356	9.2%
20-24 years	1,480	5.1%	1,585	5.3%	3,065	5.2%	111	3.8%
25-29 years	1,524	5.3%	1,570	5.3%	3,094	5.3%	-374	-10.8%
30-34 years	1,768	6.1%	1,894	6.4%	3,662	6.2%	-256	-6.5%
35-39 years	1,967	6.8%	2,102	7.1%	4,068	6.9%	-112	-2.7%
40-44 years	2,049	7.1%	2,152	7.2%	4,201	7.2%	-174	-4.0%
45-49 years	2,164	7.5%	2,207	7.4%	4,371	7.5%	551	14.4%
50-54 years	1,932	6.7%	1,861	6.3%	3,793	6.5%	89	2.4%
55-59 years	1,871	6.5%	1,785	6.0%	3,657	6.2%	794	27.7%
60-64 years	1,485	5.1%	1,355	4.6%	2,840	4.8%	280	10.9%
65-69 years	1,206	4.2%	1,203	4.0%	2,409	4.1%	215	9.8%
70-74 years	980	3.4%	1,074	3.6%	2,054	3.5%	-36	-1.7%
75-79 years	883	3.1%	1,005	3.4%	1,888	3.2%	285	17.8%
80-84 years	516	1.8%	769	2.6%	1,285	2.2%	296	30.0%
85 years and over	316	1.1%	677	2.3%	993	1.7%	201	25.3%
Total	28,918	100.0%	29,730	100.0%	58,648	100.0%	1,818	3.2%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006)

Age Profile, Mildura Region, 2006



Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2006)

Cultural Diversity

The traditional indigenous people of Mildura are the Latje Latje people, while the broader area of the Mildura Rural City Council includes the Latje Latje and Wergaia. Other tribal groups such as the Ngintait, Ngardad and Jari Jari are mentioned in historical research. The Wentworth Shire Council area is the native land of the Barkindji, Maraura and Kereinji people.

Today, the land in Mildura is recognised as Latje Latje country and the land in Wentworth is recognised as Barkindji country. Many of these indigenous peoples still call the region home and the population of indigenous people in the Mildura region has been increasing over the past years.

Indigenous Profile

Indigenous Population, Mildura Region, 2001-2006

Region	2001		2006	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Mildura Rural City Council	516	574	645	787
Wentworth Shire Council	262	279	299	312
Mildura Region	778	853	944	1,099
Total	1,631		2,043	

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006)

Country of Birth

Beyond the indigenous population, there are also residents in the region from other countries including United Kingdom, Italy, New Zealand and Greece. These residents help provide for a culturally and linguistically diverse community.

Main Countries of Birth, Mildura Region, 2001-2006

Country	Mildura Rural City Council		Wentworth Shire Council		Mildura Region	
	2001	2006	2001	2006	2001	2006
Australia	85.8%	84.2%	86.9%	87.9%	85.9%	84.6%
United Kingdom	1.8%	1.8%	1.7%	1.6%	1.8%	1.8%
Italy	1.8%	1.5%	1.3%	1.0%	1.7%	1.4%
New Zealand	0.8%	1.0%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	1.0%
Turkey	1.1%	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	0.9%
Greece	0.4%	0.4%	0.1%	0.1%	0.4%	0.4%
Born elsewhere	3.1%	3.7%	1.9%	1.9%	3.0%	3.5%
Country of birth not stated	5.1%	6.3%	7.2%	6.7%	5.4%	6.4%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006)

Language Spoken

Given the country of birth for many residents, it is not surprising that many other languages including Italian, Greek and others are spoken in the Mildura region. Beyond language, the Mildura region is a culturally and linguistically diverse community.

Main Language other than English (LOTE) Spoken, Mildura Region, 2001-2006

Language	Mildura Rural City Council		Wentworth Shire Council		Mildura Region	
	2001	2006	2001	2006	2001	2006
% LOTE Speaking	8.3%	8.3%	4.2%	3.3%	7.8%	7.7%
% English Only Speaking	87.6%	87.4%	89.5%	92.1%	87.8%	88.0%
Not Stated	4.1%	4.2%	6.3%	4.6%	4.3%	4.3%
% LOTE of total population:						
Italian	3.2%	2.5%	2.1%	1.6%	3.0%	2.4%
Turkish	1.6%	1.5%	0.0%	0.0%	1.4%	1.4%
Greek	0.9%	0.8%	0.2%	0.2%	0.8%	0.7%
Samoan	0.1%	0.3%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%
Croatian	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%	0.3%
Other	2.2%	2.8%	1.7%	1.1%	2.1%	2.6%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006)

In 2006, 7.7% of the Mildura region population spoke a language other than English.

Nearly 85% of dwellings in the Mildura region are separate houses.

Housing in the Mildura Region

There are currently 20,948 occupied private dwellings in the Mildura region, which are primarily family households (71%) in separate houses (85%). There are more separate houses in the Mildura region when compared to the average in Victoria and New South Wales, which is primarily due to the propensity of units in other parts of the states, namely Melbourne and Sydney.

At the same time, home ownership in the Mildura region seems to be in line with Victorian and New South Wales averages. The clear majority (71%) of households are families and the majority (61%) of these homes include children.



Total Households

Total Occupied Private Dwellings, Mildura Region, 2001-2006

Region	2001	2006	% Change (2001-2006)
Mildura Rural City Council	18,155	18,482	1.8%
Wentworth Shire Council	2,649	2,466	-6.9%
Mildura Region	20,804	20,948	0.7%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006)

Dwelling Structure

Dwelling Structure, Mildura Region, 2006

Structure	Mildura Rural City Council	Wentworth Shire Council	Mildura Region	VIC	NSW
Separate House	83.8%	90.5%	84.6%	77.5%	71.4%
Semi-detached/row/terrace house	5.7%	1.7%	5.2%	9.1%	9.7%
Flat/unit/apartment	8.2%	3.9%	7.7%	12.6%	17.7%
Caravan & Other	2.3%	4.0%	2.5%	0.7%	1.1%
Not Stated	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2006)

Housing Tenure

Housing Tenure, Mildura Region, 2006

Structure	Mildura Rural City Council		Wentworth Shire Council		Mildura Region		VIC		NSW	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Owned:										
Fully owned	6,383	34.5%	916	37.2%	7,299	34.8%	644,112	36.2%	810,706	34.8%
Being purchased	6,163	33.3%	806	32.7%	6,969	33.3%	632,337	35.5%	742,157	31.9%
Total owned/being purchased	12,546	67.9%	1,722	69.9%	14,268	68.1%	1,276,449	71.6%	1,552,863	66.7%
Rented:										
Real estate agent	2,339	12.7%	164	6.7%	2,503	11.9%	251,485	14.1%	389,724	16.7%
State housing authority	918	5.0%	49	2.0%	967	4.6%	54,523	3.1%	108,793	4.7%
Person not in same household	1,208	6.5%	179	7.3%	1,387	6.6%	98,371	5.5%	129,519	5.6%
Other landlord type	484	2.6%	185	7.5%	669	3.2%	21,971	1.2%	40,274	1.7%
Landlord type not stated	217	1.2%	45	1.8%	262	1.3%	12,678	0.7%	19,120	0.8%
Total Rented	5,166	28.0%	622	25.2%	5,788	27.6%	439,028	24.6%	687,430	29.5%
Other tenure:	120	0.6%	23	0.9%	143	0.7%	11,918	0.7%	19,259	0.8%
Tenure type not stated	650	3.5%	98	4.0%	748	3.6%	54,269	3.0%	68,666	2.9%
Total Dwellings	18,482	100.0%	2,465	100.0%	20,947	100.0%	1,781,664	100.0%	2,328,218	100.0%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2006)

Household Structure, Mildura Region, 2006

	Families		Lone Person		Group Household	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Mildura Rural City Council	13,126	71.0%	4,876	26.4%	482	2.6%
Wentworth Shire Council	1,827	74.1%	583	23.6%	56	2.3%
Mildura Region	14,953	71.4%	5,459	26.1%	538	2.6%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2006)

Family Households, Mildura Region, 2006

Structure	Mildura Rural City Council		Wentworth Shire Council		Mildura Region	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
With Children	5,777	43.6%	783	42.4%	6,560	43.4%
Without Children	5,140	38.8%	764	41.4%	5,904	39.1%
Single Parents	2,187	16.5%	270	14.6%	2,457	16.3%
Other	156	1.2%	29	1.6%	185	1.2%
Total	13,260	100.0%	1,846	100.0%	15,106	100.0%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2006)